

YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT TO COMMUNITY KEY SERVICES DIALOGUE

SEPTEMBER 2009

Dear Neighbors & Friends:

The financial crisis is still lingering and the debate over how to best use our financial and human resources to serve City residents continues. Your voice is needed to determine the future of our community

On October 13, Ward 1 will host a Key Services Forum from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Archer Center, located at 1665 S. La Cholla Blvd., south of 22nd street and West of Mission Road. I encourage you to attend and participate in the discussion to prioritize City services. I invite Ward I residents and businesses, neighborhood associations, and anyone who attended the budget hearings earlier this year to come and share what services are most important to you. Please contact my office at (520)791-4040 for more information.

On another note, our Satellite office at the El Pueblo Senior Center is off to a smashing success! Ward I Council Aide Lane Santa Cruz is available to provide assistance on Wednesdays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Since we launched our Ward I Satellite Office July 1st, the response has been positive. We take pride in the fact that this is the first time that a satellite office has been offered to our neighbors living in the south and southwest side neighborhoods, and no additional funding is needed to operate the office.

I look forward to hearing your feedback. Please contact my office with your thoughts. Listed below are the contact numbers for the Ward I Council Staff.

In Community,



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MURAL ART AT TUCSON WATER BLDG: Parks & Recreation's Arts in Reality students pose with artist Rocky Martinez and instructor Ruth Marblestone (with son)

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OUR COMMUNITY

BICAS (BICYCLE INTER-COMMUNITY ACTION AND SALVAGE) OFFERS MANY CLASSES FOR BIKE MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND ART

Vice Mayor
Romero strongly supports
BICAS staying in
Downtown Tucson's
Historic Warehouse Arts
District. They are safe in
their present location at
Citizen's, a state-owned
warehouse near the
railroad tracks at the
corner of 9th Avenue and
6th Street.

BICAS started in 1989 as Bootstraps to Share. A group of likeminded community
members came together to
assist and empower the
homeless in attaining work,
shelter, food, and
transportation – bikes! In
1994, the group expanded
its mission to bicycle
recycling, art, advocacy and
education. They have
trained thousands of youth
and adults in bicycle repair,
maintenance and safety,
and have restored
thousands of bicycles.

Every Sunday, there is a women and transgender only maintenance time, led by fabulous women instructors. Bring your bike in from Noon to 4 and tune it up with help from experts.

Visit the website, http://www.bicas.org/about/, to learn more about all the classes (mostly free), rent a bike for \$5, buy a used bike or join a community bike ride.



Bike Girls Rule! Kylie Walzak and Kristin McCray of BICAS train women Sundays from 12 -4 pm.

NEW YOUTH-ARTIST MURAL DOWNTOWN CELEBRATES HISTORY, CULTURE & NATURE



Regina at the Celebration for the Bike Sanctuary, public art made with recycled bikes in Barrio Anita at Main Avenue and W. Davis Street.

Help plant trees at the site on October 4th! Email Ward1@Tucsonaz.gov or visit http://www.Tucsoncitizen.com for information and photos of the artists and the event.

Vice Mayor Regina Romero contributed \$8,000 in Youth Employment funds to support Tucson Parks and Recreation's Arts in Reality program. Manager Ruth Marblestone worked with artist Rocky Martinez, El Presidio neighbors and community members to teach kids about the history and culture of Tucson's Westside.

Ninety-nine year old Frank Pesqueira and his family attended the August 25 event to see the piece of the mural celebrating their family business - Grande Tortilla Factory, which recently closed. The theme was Tucson's history and this area used to be wheat fields, which were used to create tortillas! Sonoran desert and Santa Cruz River wildlife and the history of Chinese workers on the railroad are also represented. The Chinese quote on the mural can be translated to mean "10,000 wishes come true" or "Everything goes smoothly."

Congrats to the youth artists: Richard Almarez, Michael Allen, Carlos Armenta, Gabe Beta-Kiser, Josh Beta-Kiser, Robbie Felix, John Granados, Trevin Hooker, Ital Ironstone, Thomas Jimenez, Jahan Khamsehzadeh, Dillan Patterson, Jose Soto, Jason Soto, Nick Thongsophaphona, Jonny Torrez, Nolan Veneklasen, and Aaron Wuerfel.



Regina supports the strong partnership between the Metropolitan Tucson Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Tucson Pima Arts Council. Shown here with MTCVB's Rick Vaughn, Kimberly Schmitz, Roberto Bedoya and artist Alex Heveri.

IN ACTION

SUNNYSIDE TAKES BACK THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD

For the past year, the Sunnyside Neighborhood has worked in partnership with Tucson Police Department's Special Investigations Enforcement Unit in an effort to develop leads on drug related crimes. Residents are hesitant to report crime for fear of retaliation. The Neighborhood is afraid its youth will participate in criminal gang activity, violence, vandalism, and underage drinking.

To help mediate these problems neighborhood residents and allies are working together sponsoring bilingual community events to promote the integration of community residents through the building of trust, effective communication and pathways to

action. The neighborhood leadership wants to instill that crime prevention is not just a police responsibility but a community-wide effort. Sunnyside is working on creating positive outlets in the neighborhood for residents: walking, biking, picnics, gardening, playing sports and activities that help neighbors become acquainted. The goal of these activities is to ignite in residents a sense of ownership and pride in their home and neighborhood, and to reaffirm residents care about the place they live, by keeping both public and private areas clean and well maintained. In addition, much work has been done to beautify the community with trees, gardens, and murals.

"We want to build a cohesive neighborhood that is inclusive of our youth, parents, seniors, businesses, schools, and public safety personnel. We're all affected by everything good or bad that happens in our neighborhood so we have to work together to make this a family friendly place in which we all look out for each other," said Rebecca Quintero, President for Sunnyside Neighborhood.



A Labor of Love- Bridge of Love located in Sunnyside Neighborhood's Peace Garden.

Event Highlights Include:

All American Awards: Every year two graduating students from each Sunnyside Unified School District are honored. Honorees are recognized for their community service and for being a positive role model.

National Night Out: Each August residents gather one evening outdoors to promote police and community partnerships. The Sunnyside Neighborhood offers backpacks, school supplies, face painting and haircuts to school-aged youth; food, drinks and socializing for everyone.

Children's Peace Garden Workshops: Bi-weekly sessions for families on topics such as gardening, neighborhood beautification, healthy eating habits, physical activities, bicycle maintenance, and healthy communities.

Community Building Events: Informational workshops for residents on drug and gang prevention, information on programs and services target crime prevention such as 88-Crime and Victim Witness.

4th of July Event: The evening began with parents and their children launching model rockets, a healthy barbecue, children interviewing veterans on their experiences, and a flag folding ceremony.

Senior Ball: Seniors dancing to the sounds of a live big band and a swinging DJ. Neighborhood youth an active role organizing the event, creating opportunity for the community's older and younger generations to work together.

Peace March: Building on achievements of previous events, the march will rally together participants, reclaiming the peace and safety of Sunnyside Neighborhood.

To participate or for more information contact: Rebecca 'Beki' Quintero: Gapitgirl@msn.com

SENIOR ANTI-CRIME UNIVERSITY IN WARD I

Join Vice Mayor Regina Romero and Attorney General Terry Goddard for our Senior Anti-Crime University to be held November 20 from 8 a.m. to noon at Pima Community College Desert Vista Campus, 5901 S. Calle Santa Cruz. Classes will be offered in Spanish and English to teach Seniors about scams against seniors. Neighborhood leaders are also encouraged to attend to learn about programs to help Seniors in their neighborhood. If you would like to have a table at the event, please call (520)791-4040 or email Diana.Rhoades@Tucsonaz.gov.



TRANSPORTATION

CUSHING STREET UNDERPASS LINKS EAST & WEST NEIGHBORHOODS

On August 27th Mayor Bob Walkup, Vice Mayor Regina Romero, Council Member Nina Trasoff, Board of Supervisors Chairman Richard Elías and business and neighborhood leaders celebrated the opening of the Cushing Street underpass.

"With the opening of the Cushing Street underpass, the City of Tucson can now move forward with the Cushing Street Bridge and then make way for the Modern Street Car servicing the west side of downtown." Romero said. "The \$50million Gadsden Company investment on the Westside will connect to the Convention Center along a new roadway for cars, pedestrians, bicycles and the modern streetcar. Downtown's West Side is open and ready for business."



From left to right CTAC Chairperson Farhad Moghimi, Council Member Nina Trasoff, Mayor Bob Walkup, RTA Executive Director Gary Hayes, COT Director of Transportation Jim Glock, and Vice Mayor Regina Romero.



oarkinaday.ora

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ME ON

Construction was a team effort, Arizona Department of Transportation, City of Tucson Department of Transportation, Gordley Design and the Kiewit/Sundt Joint Venture worked together to make a structure that is an asset to the community. The Cushing Street underpass widening is critical for the Cushing Street Bridge and the modern streetcar. City of Tucson Transportation Director Jim Glock gave an update on the Cushing Street bridge and modern street car funding. Brian Corbell and Maurice Destouet, owner and manager of the Riverpark Inn, provided free breakfast and coffee.

2ND ANNUAL PARK(ING) DAY IS SEPTEMBER 18TH!!!

Park(ing) Day is a one-day, global event founded by REBAR and Trust for Public Land that turns metered parking spots into temporary public parks. Ward 1 is taking it further, creating real mini parks across the city, including one at Silverbell and Congress.

Please stop by to visit Ward 1's temporary park at Stone and Pennington (near Ike's coffee) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Last year's theme was promoting Sonoran Desert planting and removing invasive species such as buffelgrass and fountain grass. This year we are partnering with the City's Environmental Services Department to promote plastic bag recycling. Romero supported a new city ordinance to increase plastic bag recycling and reuse and we'll have a demonstration of all the types of bags that can be recycled at your local grocery story. Remember, you can't recycle plastic bags in your blue bin!

It's not too late to create your own park. To reserve spaces downtown, along 4th Avenue, or at Main Gate, please call MaryLou at ParkWise at 791-5071. The cost for downtown spaces is \$4.50/day and at Main Gate is \$9/day. To reserve spaces on the University of Arizona campus (metered spaces only), please call Carmen Delahanty at 621-3710. The cost for these spaces is \$11/day.

EARLY VOTING BEGINS OCTOBER 8!

KNOW THE FACTS ABOUT PROP 200 & PROP 400. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 791-4213 OR VISIT HTTP://

WWW.TUCSONAZ.GOV/PSFI/ & HTTP:// TUCSONAZ.GOV/HOMERULE/.

WORKING TOGETHER

OFFICERS TAKE ONE ON THE CHIN FOR KIDS



The 2nd Annual Battle of the Badges, benefitting the Tucson Police Athletic League, will be held Saturday, September 19, 4 p.m. at the AVA Amphitheater. General Admission tickets are \$20, and Preferred Seating tickets are \$25. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Tucson Police Athletic League (PAL).

Officers from Tucson Police Department (TPD) and other departments are slated to fight in fifteen live matches. Immediately following the matches a live broadcast televised on two jumbo screens will feature the 12-round welterweight showdown between Floyd Mayweather and Juan Manuel Marquez.

PAL is a youth program working to prevent juvenile crime, violence, and delinquency by providing athletic, civic, educational, and recreational opportunities and resources to at-risk youth. It is staffed by police officers who reinforce positive values and attitudes. TPD's Gang Outreach Unit has

been instrumental in bringing this program back to Tucson to benefit our youth. The local PAL chapter has just found a location for their program at Estevan Park and will use the proceeds from the event to fix-up the building and purchase sports equipment and supplies. For more information please contact Officer Mark Doe at (520) 307-2303, Mark.Doe@Tucsonaz.gov.

'A' MOUNTAIN TAKES A STAND AGAINST WILDCAT

The 'A' Mountain Community has come together to fight illegal dumping in their neighborhood. The neighborhoods hosts regular neighborhood clean-up events, communicates with Environmental Services, Code Enforcement, and the Ward I Council Office when concerns arise in the neighborhood. 'A' Mountain residents also walk through the neighborhood, picking up trash in easements, sidewalks, and in Vista del Pueblo Park.

Recently, staff members from the Ward I Council Office joined the neighbors to clean a vacant property in the neighborhood that had become overrun with refuse from wildcat dumping. The previous owner had encouraged people to drop off used building materials. With the property vacant, the refuse continued to grow. The neighborhood spent several days cleaning the property with little success. Ward I joined the neighbors, and with assistance from Environmental Services and Community Services cleaned the property. Work continues to find a solution to keep the site clean.

Recently the neighborhood adopted San Juan Park, which reflects the ongoing commitment of the 'A' Mountain Community to keep their neighborhood parks, streets, and watersheds clean and beautiful.



'A' Mountain Community cares for San Juan Park through Tucson Clean & Beautiful.

VICE MAYOR ROMERO ORGANIZES MENLO PARK SCHOOL DAYS OF CARING



Menlo Park Elementary, the jewel of the Neighborhood, gets a polishing.

On September 12, 2009, Vice Mayor Romero and Ward I Staff, Menlo Park Neighborhood, University Physicians and Premier Paving gave Menlo Park Elementary a makeover! Volunteers came from throughout the community, including Menlo Park alumni and families of current students.

Premier Paving graciously donated time and materials to repave the school's back parking lot. University Physicians has also extended their support for Menlo Park Elementary, and repainted the cafeteria. Neighborhood residents updated the school with landscaping. Tucson Fire Department displayed a truck and offered information on fire safety.

Ernie Ortiz, owner of Premier Paving said, "We know that times are hard, people and businesses are struggling to make ends meet. In these difficult times we, as a

community, need to come together and strive to make things easier for our schools, especially with the budget cuts to education."

CITY SPOTLIGHT: EDWARD RODRIGUEZ

Edward Rodriguez has had several careers, from Firefighter to Massage Therapist. His new job: Student. He is pursuing a B.S. in Social Work at ASU's Tucson Program and he is interning in the Ward I Council Office. He chose to intern in the Ward I Council Office because he would like to return to his

hometown to run for City Council.

Originally from Boerne, Texas, northwest of San Antonio, "Edward is a small town guy at heart." Most of his family still resides in the area. He and his wife, Greta Buck-Rodriguez, have lived in Tucson since 1997. He loves the spirit of Tucson, "a big city with a small town atmosphere." After graduation Edward would like to get a Master's in Social Work or Theology.



Ward I Intern Edward Rodriguez

Edward loves to cook, his favorites are steak and a 'lazy man's enchilada casserole'. Although he professes to not have any free time, he avidly volunteers for agencies working around prevention and child welfare issues. He enjoys reading and listening to music, including Christian, Conjunto, and Classical.

Edward is motivated to return to Texas and run for City Council to provide a voice for the voiceless—the poor and people of color. No doubt his life experience and internship will support the next leg of his life journey.

SAVE A LIFE CLASSES OFFERED AT WARD I

Save A Life offers classes in CPR and First Aid training at the Ward I Council Office and eight other locations in Tucson. Classes are taught by off-duty members of the Tucson Fire Department. Listed below are upcoming classes at Ward I.

- Heart Saver CPR & First Aid
 Saturday, September 19, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- <u>Healthcare Provider CPR</u>
 Tuesday, September 29, 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Save A Life has served the community since 1979. Save A Life Foundation is a non-profit organization and receives support from <u>Tucson Electric Power Company</u>, <u>Holmes Tuttle Ford</u>, <u>Tucson Fire Department</u> and <u>Tucson Fire Fighters</u>
<u>Association</u>. For more information, contact Save A Life at 623-8484 or online at http://www.savealifetfd.com.

FOR 9 QUEENS GIRLS + CHESS=SUCCESS

Nine Queens is a chess term referring to the ability for pawns to

become queens. 9
Queens uses the term as a metaphor for the belief that every child has the capacity to become critical thinkers, do well in school, and have confidence in their abilities. 9
Queens is the brainchild of Jean Hoffman and Jennifer Shahade.



and they are using chess to teach students, especially girls and at-risk youth that they have the capacity and the ability to succeed in their personal and academic goals.

9 Queens offers a Girls Academy, an afterschool program, a training for teachers and an in-classroom program to teach children chess.

On October 18th, Vice Mayor Regina Romero and Council Member Nina Trasoff are co-hosting All Queens Chess Day, a chess workshop for women and girls, from 1-4 p.m. at Bookman's, 6230 E. Speedway Blvd. The event is free and open to the public. For more information or to pre-register for the tournament email jhoffman@9queens.org

WARD I'S SONORAN GLASS ART ACADEMY OFFERS CLASSES & EVENTS FOR ALL

Saturday, September 19th, 4-8pm, 633 W. 18th St.

Please join members & friends at the Academy for a Happy Hour to taste beers by Barrio Brewing Company & Thunder Canyon Brewery and watch live glassblowing. Bid on beer steins while they're being made. Open to the public, all ages. \$20 for public/\$10 for SGAA members/free to under 21. Your \$20 entry fee also gets you a commemorative, printed event beer stein! This event will include home cooked Mexican food, great local beers, live glassblowing, glass art, and live music by the Silver Thread Trio!

Open Torch Night, the last Sunday of every month. This month's event will take place on **September 27th**, **6-10pm**. Contact the Academy at 884-7814 for more information.

